

THE POOR PEOPLE'S PAPER



WORDS - MAD TSE TUNG



PUBLISHED BY THE GREATER MONTREAL ANTI-POVERTY
COORDINATING COMMITTEE

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FOR PEOPLE'S WIFE



THE PEOPLE'S WIFE

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The GREATER MONTREAL ANTI-POVERTY COORDINATING COMMITTEE is a federation of citizens' groups: AMA BAIE COMMUNITY ACTION LEAGUE, ASSOCIATION POUR LA DEFENSE DES DROITS SOCIAUX, CITIZENS' RIGHTS AGAINST BAILIFF SEIZURES, GREEK CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION, GRIFFINTOWN PROGRESS ASSOCIATION, OPEN YOUR EYES TO POVERTY, OUTREMONT ANTI-POVERTY ASSOCIATION, POINT EQUAL RIGHTS MOVEMENT, POINT IMPROVEMENT OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE, SAINT LAURENT ANTI-POVERTY, SOUTH SHORE CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION, UP TO THE NECK, VERDUN ANTI-POVERTY ASSOCIATION, VERDUN TENANTS' ASSOCIATION, VOICES IN SOCIAL ACTION, WELFARE AND LOW INCOME CITIZENS, WELFARE RIGHTS ANTI-POVERTY.

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HOUSING IN QUEBEC

HOUSING IN QUEBEC: THERE'S GOT TO BE SOME CHANGES MADE

What is the housing situation in this province? To begin with, it's deplorable. In Quebec, land speculation and property rights and the price of land is such that only those who are relatively well off can afford to have some. Legislation in Quebec is the kind that permits 80% of the population to be dominated by the other 20%. That's the approximate tenant/landlord ratio in this province. The reason, legislation is based not on human values, as they are in most of the other provinces, but on land values. This means that, as far as housing is concerned, the people are almost completely at the mercy of the huge land speculators and holding companies. These corporations have the power to buy out land, expropriate houses, evict tenants and small home owners and knock houses down, usually at the whim of a city administrator. The prime example of this is the Milton Park area, and we all know where that's led. Yet another example, and perhaps a stronger one is the kind of project that demolishes homes and builds highways or parking lots in their places, just so the people who can afford cars can have more traffic problems, above and beyond the ones they already have.

Just what are the housing laws in Quebec? There are three legal systems in which housing is involved that are exclusive to Quebec, the Civil Code, the Rental Board Act and the Quebec Housing Corporation Act. The Civil Code concerns itself with housing only where landlord/tenant relationships are concerned. It doesn't do much for the 80% of the population of Quebec that does not own their own homes. In fact, the Civil Code is so highly slanted in favor of the landlords that a tenant is forever at a loss to do anything against the landlords in a legal sense. If the tenant should win, chances are he will have to fork a small fortune in court costs and lawyers fees.

The Rental Board Act is a more equitable piece of legislation. Passed in April of 1951, it is applicable to all houses in the province built before then. An amendment passed in 1968 allows municipalities in the province to extend the jurisdiction of the act to houses built before 1968 provided the city in question makes the application. Montreal has yet to do this.

The act itself was passed to protect tenants from abuses of landlords during the postwar housing shortage and so it considerably better disposed towards tenants than the Civil Code. It gives the tenants a legal recourse to contest such things as unjust and exorbitant increases in rent and arbitrary evictions. If the Rental Administrator's decision is in favor of the landlord, the tenant can always make an appeal. The service offered by the Rental Board is completely free of charge. There are no legal fees or court costs to pay and this is a decided advantage over the Civil Code.

Now lets have a look at Urban Renewal. The province has a law to cover that too. It's the Quebec Housing Corporation Act and although it does offer people recourse to fight a city in its urban renewal projects, the law is too vague and insufficient to be all that effective. It requires a city to make an application to the province before starting an urban renewal project and if the province refuses, the project is scrapped. The act also forces the city to make the project a matter of public domain within ten days of its adoption by the city and gives residents of the area 30 days to register any objections to the project. Nothing forces the cities to make the project public while it's still in the planning stages and it's quite possible for a city to keep an urban renewal project a secret until the plans are all drawn up. This gives area residents only 30 days to organize and send off any large scale complaints to the

HOUSING IN QUEBEC: THERE'S GOT TO BE SOME CHANGES MADE

provincial government. The law is also very vague in one respect. It claims to be in favor of low-rental housing, but nowhere in the act is low rental housing strictly defined. To some, low rental houses are houses for which one pays \$150.00 a month and that's not easy to do when you're on welfare. The law is worded in such a way that virtually any project can be passed if the citizens of the area in question don't voice any objection within the 30 day limit.

Even from this judgement of only a few facts, it is quite obvious that housing legislation in the province of Quebec is still inadequate. Despite the efforts of the justice minister to prolong the Rental Board Act on a permanent basis and in such a way that all the houses in the provinces come under its jurisdiction, there is still no law that permits tenants to know whether or not their homes will be demolished until the urban renewal plan concerned is completed and made public. With only 30 days to organize, any attempt to form an effective opposition to an urban renewal plan can best be described as an unco-ordinated and hap-hazard affair without much chance of success. There have been at least three exceptions.

In Verdun's May-Brassard zone the residents learned of the plan through an error on the part of the City. Verdun announced its plans for urban renewal in 1968 but came up against a rather unexpected source of opposition, the City of Montreal. Montreal announced its own plans for extension of the Metro and it was for this reason that some of Verdun's City councillors thought that urban renewal wouldn't be such a bad idea. But Montreal, in the course of its preparations, announced no less than four changes in the locations of the Metro stations in Verdun. This meant that Verdun had to postpone its decision on their urban renewal project, which had been announced in the local papers. This gave the citizens the time they needed to organize against the plan.

Another exception is the Milton Park zone, in the centre of Montreal. The City had already gone through the process of freezing the land values and selling the land and the buildings on them to Concordia Estates, a large development firm and a subsidiary of Power Corporation. Concordia Estates lost money, however, and after buying up the property and boarding some 250 homes, found themselves unable to afford the cost of demolishing these homes. Result--250 homes were left to rot and have been unoccupied for over two years. This gave the citizens time to organize. Whenever Concordia applied for a loan, the local residents were able to make a loud enough noise to get the potential lenders to think twice about a loan. Their goal is to reopen these houses for low income families, and with Concordia on the verge of declaring bankruptcy, their chances look good.

Another example of where the citizens were able to block an urban renewal plan was in Joliette, where the residents called a meeting through the Quebec Housing Corporation and voiced their objections to the plan. As a result of that meeting the City was forced to make some rather important changes in the project and both parties were satisfied. These, however, were isolated examples and were largely the results of accidents in the citizens' favor. It's a pity that the province hasn't passed forcing all municipalities to consult the citizens affected by an urban renewal plan before the plans are even completed. The excuse that Verdun gave for not doing this was that it was not practical to look at unfinished plans. Someone should have told that to the administration of the City of Outremont. They had the courtesy to do just that, thereby setting a precedent in urban planning. Perhaps this is one fact that can be used as such on the Island of Montreal at least. It's certainly indicative of the fact that changes are possible and, as the law reads now, these changes are necessary.

DON'T FEEL GUILTY !

The latest thing that members of G.M.A.P.C.C. (Greater Montreal Anti-Poverty Co-Ordinating Committee) are discussing are the jobs that some members got from L.I.P. and how some are saying that people have changed since working and how some feel guilty for working and receiving a salary. Plus the fact that people are not organizing anymore and are now running some of the projects like agencies if not worse. But the fact is that poor people are human beings too, and tend to copy professional people who work at agencies (who else have they got to copy?) Some people tend to make mistakes such as becoming rude or impersonal in their approach to help people which in turn makes it hard to organize.

When we started G.M.A.P.C.C. we stated that we wouldn't have anything to do with the Liberal Party and that we would make alliances with unions and groups involved in the same struggle as G.M.A.P.C.C. But the Liberal Party came up with a brilliant idea to stop the middle class from screaming because there weren't any jobs for them -- they started the Local Initiatives Programme. G.M.A.P.C.C. saw its chance to go after some of that money so that it would see that some of the members who had been volunteering their time for the past two years would receive some of that money. Some observers felt that it was sort of a contradiction in a sense but not to go after any of that money would have been insanity.

First of all, people will change when there is a financial change in their lives. Rich people will become more greedy and want to exploit more people; and poor people, after living off welfare for two or three years on \$180.00 per month and who then get \$90.00 per week will naturally change. The poor are making a mistake though they are stopping at the wrong time, just like unions in the past who stopped when they reached a certain salary and certain condition in the factory, but who should have kept fighting until they changed more basic things like the state of their houses and health and education of their families (the C.S.N. is now working towards these goals). So the thing is, people shouldn't feel guilty for having a salary but should keep fighting to make a better life for themselves and all the oppressed people in Quebec.

There is absolutely nothing wrong with wanting and having certain things such as a good house, access to free medicine, medical and dental care, a bottle of whiskey, to go to a theatre, to have nice clothes. These are all goodies, but try not to forget what G.M.A.P.C.C. is all about. It's a movement, not a social agency (even though we are labelled as such) and whether we get a salary or not shouldn't affect us in our goals.

PAT QUINSEY



FIGHT FOR YOUR FIGHTS !

POOR PEOPLE MUST STICK TOGETHER#2

A couple of months ago around Nov. or Oct. I wrote an article about (POOR PEOPLE MUST STICK TOGETHER). Now I would like to know why they do not. They do not join citizen's groups to help change the system that we have. The unjust system that allows the laws to work against the poor. If you have money you can beat any rap against you. This I believe everybody knows. Do you know that if the poor citizens got together, they can change this. It is not only welfare that the system robs, but also low income worker, old age pensioners and the ones that are on unemployment insurance. The only ones that the system favor is the people with money. I would like to see more people with money stand up and be counted. Just for once I would like to see some one like Shell Oil, Molsons, or someone else with a lot of money say, "I believe in the poor people of Quebec" and donate a little of their blessings with the poor for a change, instead of backing some political party with their ungotten earnings. Give it back to the poor citizens who they have stolen from in one way or another. But the only way this will ever happen is to get the system changed. The only way for that, is for the citizens to stick together and help put pressure where it counts. One person can not do it alone, but thousands and thousands can do it. The majority of citizens of Quebec are poor. There are very few rich citizens. So let's fight for what we want. The citizens of Quebec are the working class and we are the ones who make these people rich. So let's get up from under the thumb and heels of the government and the rest of the so called citizens of Quebec (Mr. Rich). Let's change the system, let's stick together and unite into one unmoveable object and put pressure where the pressure counts the most. Let's be men and not lap dogs. Maybe you are saying to yourself, "How can we do it?" I will tell you how it can be done and within the laws of the land.

There is an organization called the Greater Montreal Anti-Poverty Co-ordinating Committee (G.M.A.P.C.C.). This organization is formed of seventeen citizens groups at the present time. The groups are from the greater Montreal and South Shore area. G.M.A.P.C.C. was formed for citizen's groups to stick together and join hand in hand to help fight the poverty and to let the the public know their rights and help to get them. Everyone that knows of G.M.A.P.C.C. thinks that they are welfare groups. This was true but not any more. Let me tell you about the rest of the groups who belong to G.M.A.P.C.C. For instance there is a group who fight the school system for better schools, teachers and better teaching for our children. There is another one on housing. This group of citizens are trying to change the housing system, example, rents, housing conditions, and to make the landlords repair their houses or apartment buildings. Then there is health. They try to get health clinics for the citizens and better health conditions for the public.

There is C.R.A.B.S. Citizen's Rights Against Bailiff Seizures and consumer's protection. This group was formed to let the public know their rights against bailiff seizures and contracts. Do you know that out of 2000 installment contracts 1999 were contested successfully? Eighty percent of seizures in the Greater Montreal area are illegal. But only two out of one hundred were ever contested. Why? Because citizens do not know their rights. Where does the trouble lie with

POOR PEOPLE MUST STICK TOGETHER - CONT'D.

consumer protection? Well a lot of citizens buy on the installment plan and a lot of the poor buy from door to door salesmen. They sign illegal contracts and that is where the trouble begins. This also starts a piggy backing of accumulating debts and costs. This includes court charges, bailiff costs and storage charges. For some unfortunate reason the debtor can not meet his payment, then the stores sell his bills to a collection agency for ten percent of the balance of the bill. Before long the debtor finds a judgement has been taken out against him because he could not meet the full payment when the collection agency demanded it. Since C.R.A.B.S. has been in operation, we have handled over 500 cases in Montreal and the South Shore successfully.

So now you have a little idea what citizens can do if they stick together. You can join a citizen group and help change the system. The health group could use more citizens to help them in their fight. All the groups mentioned need more people like yourself, to help in their cause. If you are going to sit back and do nothing about what is going on around you, then you might as well dig a hole and jump in. Because our parents did nothing about the unjust system does not mean that we should do the same. At least there are some citizens who are trying to do something about it. Maybe you have been helped already by one of the above groups. So you do not need their help at the present time, but who knows what is going to happen tomorrow. Are you willing to take the chance that there will always be groups like these around when you need them. These people can not continue their work without your help. If everybody thought like most of the citizens who do not like to help their fellow men or just take help when they need it, then pity help your children of tomorrow's system. If you do not want to help the people who need help then think of what can happen to your children. Your children will suffer because you were either too lazy, too busy, or you just did not care, because the system did not hurt you. You let someone else do the work for you because you were afraid to do something about what is going on around you. You shut your eyes to the facts. Because it's your taxes, your money that keeps this system going. Your taxes and earnings keep the big companies (Which mostly belong to Americans) on welfare from the Government. But the Government wants you to think that your money supports people on welfare. Who makes money from your earnings? Is it citizens on welfare? or is it big stores, big companies. Just think for a while who gets rich? You or the ones who are making money out of you. That is right, the ones who are making money out of your hard earnings.

If there is no group in your own area, then start one. If you need help or for further information on if there is a group near where you live, or information on how to start one, then you can phone the G.R.A.F.C.C. at 932-0740 or 935-4691.

But if you join a citizens group do not just join for what you can get out of it. Do not go to meetings and just sit around. Take pride in what you are doing, let your voice be heard, speak up and take part in what ever group you join. Because you are there for a reason I hope, and not just a place to go to pass your spare time idly.

PEOPLE MUST STICK TOGETHER - CONT'D

If you are going to be another face in the crowd then you are wasting your time and the group's time. This does not help change the system.

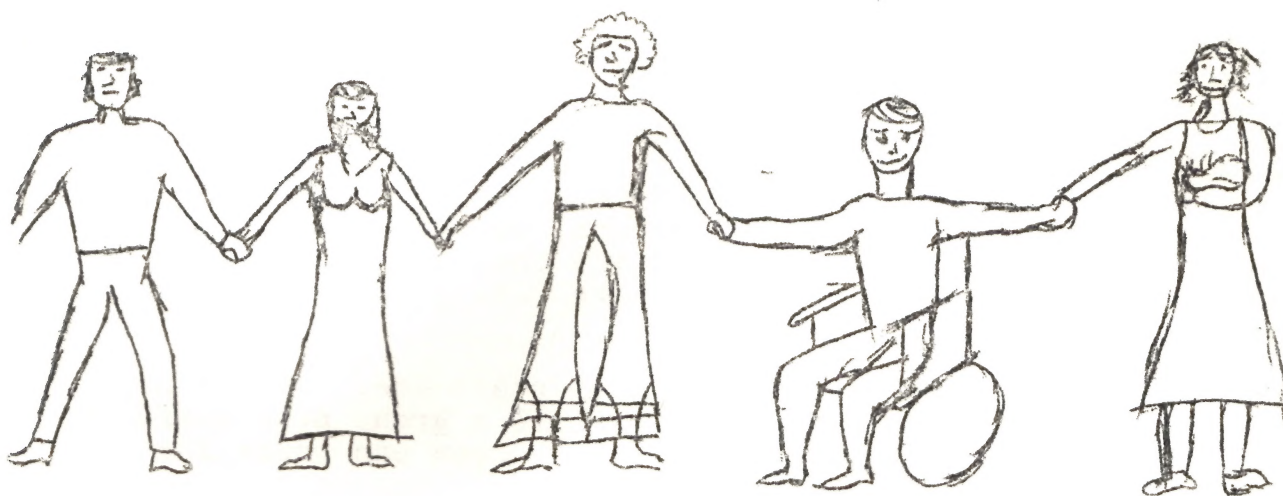
When C.R.A.B.S. meet with the Bailiffs, one of them said to me (off the record of course) that the system is so bad that C.R.A.B.S. are doing a good job and it should put more pressure on the Government. That they had to go by the system. When I asked him if he would help, that was a different story. Because they know how rotten the system is, but they are making a killing out of it from the poor citizens. They are not going to try and change anything that is keeping their pockets full. Keeping gold diamond rings on their fingers, nice hundred dollar suits, shoes and shirts plus driving new cars around. You better believe they are not. They only want you to believe they are. But their hands are tied. But he was right when he said that C.R.A.B.S. would have to change the system.

So citizens of Quebec stick together, help one another help change the system. Make the Government change their way of thinking. Keep our money here in Quebec where it can do the most good. The money they let the Americans take out can do more good here than in the states. Stop giving the big companies welfare, give it to the people who can use it the most.

This we can do, if you and the rest of the poor working and welfare class stick together and fight for what is right fully yours to have.

If anybody wants to reply to this article they can send their replies to 2111 Center, Joint St. Charles, c/o Chairman of C.R.A.B.S., Donald Whitworth or to 5369 Grande Allée, Lafleche. Phone no. 676-0443. I will be glad to hear from you.

Donald Whitworth.



UNIONS + GUARANTEED ADEQUATE ANNUAL INCOME

APRIL 22-3

THE MONTREAL LABOUR COUNCIL.

On Thursday April 20, Cecile Lefebvre, Bill Bedard and Marc Durocher left the regular GMAPCC meeting to attend a regular meeting of the Montreal Labour Council. We arrived at 9:30 pm. in time to see the last round of questions being asked by members attending the meeting.

An oration was then given by the president of the assembly and later another speech was given by Fernand Decoust. Both speeches centered on the same theme, namely where the power is and that it was high time that political and economic power was taken out of the hands of the minority of capitalists and put into the hands of the workers. The solidarity of the people, not just the employees, shown during the La Presse lock-out was cited as was the fact that the media conditions the population against strikes. Fights will have to be fought not just on the union level but on political, social, economic and cultural levels.

On Saturday, April 22, the congress opened at the Queen's Hotel at 9:30 am. A brief introduction was conducted and the meeting was broken up into four workshops, political, social, economic and cultural. Medical Doctors attended the social workshop and despite the fact that we had all day, we were only able to talk about the first item on the agenda; i.e. the establishment of a guaranteed adequate annual income. Following is a rough translation of the report of the ad hoc committee of the social workshop.

Let it be resolved that a guaranteed adequate annual income, which will be controlled by the majority of the working class, be established.

Let it be further resolved that the budget necessary for financing this income be drawn from taxes made on the profits of private industries and corporations.

Let it be finally resolved, beginning with these two elements and in the shortest possible delay, that the MLC? the CCOSNM? and Alliance des professeurs de Montreal and Citizens' Groups and peoples' movements work together to prepare a project for the establishment of a GAAI which will be discussed at the worker level.

It is understood that the preparation of this brief will be by the volunteers from the unions and by members of citizens groups.

A committee was formed within the workshop to establish the brief. the job of this committee is:

- 1) To contact other groups of workers (trade unions and cit. grps.)
- 2) Prepare the brief
- 3) Elaborate a strategy that will enable the briefs recommendations to be put into application.

THE SYSTEM MUST BE CHANGED

For the second time in two months the welfare recipients have been forced to bear the brunt of other people's lack of communication. Although some people received their cheques on time there were many others that didn't. What do people do in a case like this? They do the same as those who find themselves in desperate need and are trying for the first time to get on welfare. They do without. Without food, heat, light, gas and even a roof over their heads.

The government promised Emergency Assistance in the event of a strike. This was never made available. Many had to do without medication. How would the leaders of our province feel if they had a small child lying sick in bed with a fever of 106°, helplessly moaning and crying the mother standing and having to watch her baby suffer; watch with frustration with a knot in her gut., which turns to anger and then hate because she is on welfare and can not get into the office to get permission to purchase the drugs so desperately needed. VAPA was able to help her by getting a few druggists to give the drugs and hope that he will be able to collect from the welfare when things get back to normal. We were also able to give food to those who were without but we were unable to those who were unfortunate enough to have their Hydro cut off. Hydro Quebec who publicly state they have 12,012 people working for you couldn't find one of those who cared enough to help a family of 8 and another of 7 who have no lights, no hot water, and no cooking facilities for the last 5 days. So, it took a mother a few hours to heat up beans for supper over her oil stove, big deal, why should Hydro worry about it, it's not Hydro's fault these poor unfortunates can not pay their bills.

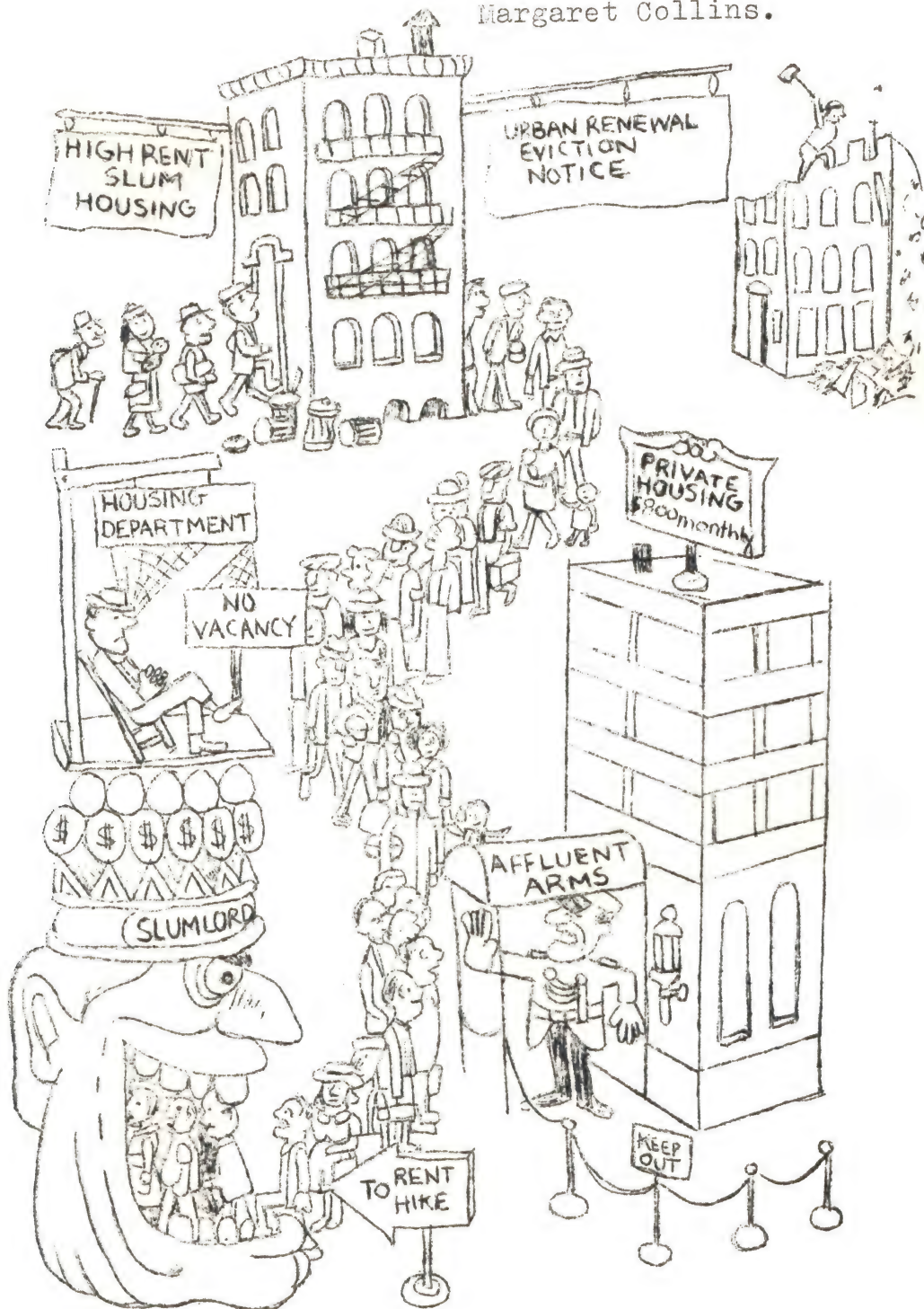
Then where does the blame lie for all this anguish and suffering? Why are so many forced to beg and grovel for such a lousy existence? Why can we give help to other countries when we have people in our neighbourhood who are starving? Our own kid, the generation who in a few years will be old enough to vote and have a say in the way things are being, then we'll have a really different way of doing things themselves. Of course this will mean only the survivors, the ones who are able to keep this strength; health, both mental and physical, the ones who can fight their way out from under the foot that is trying to keep them trodden down and even driven into the ground. And the survivors will be the ones that are spared at infancy and live until they reach the age of 2 or 3 which is the age these kids have to start fighting for their own existence.

The system which we live under must be changed. It is not the strikes who are to blame, after all they have a right to a decent living as well as anyone else. The government allowed the large corporations to reap within billions of dollars (after taxes) in profits year after year. It makes no difference which party has the powers it is always the little man who suffers. The government allows foreign investors to make money here only to spend it elsewhere. Canada has numerous 7

THE SYSTEM MUST BE CHANGED - CONT'D.

resources available but the profit from any of these does not necessarily stay in Canada. Just think what it would mean to us all if the millions sucked out of Canada each year stayed here. How many more jobs would be made available to accomplish all the work that could be created to better the lives of everyone. There might even be enough money left over to renovate some of the old houses instead of demolishing them and replacing them with high rise apartments which only a select few can afford to live in.

Margaret Collins.



RED FEATHER

"OUR CITY - JUST DON'T LIVE IN IT
GIVE IN IT"

...the way was out 'Save, donate, be charitable, help the needy ... the poor.' And the money comes rolling in. After ... help the poor! But where does this money really ...

... social agencies.

...

The ... received \$2,273,843 from the United Appeal ...

... to various citizens groups?

- 11,000 - ...
- 11,000 - ...
- 11,000 - ...
- 11,000 - ...
- 11,000 - ...



... OF ... COMMUNITY SERVICES:

The ... of ... Community Services received ... from the United Appeal Proceeds.

... directly to citizens groups?

- 11,000 - ...
- 11,000 - ...
- 11,000 - ...



... COMMUNITY SERVICES:

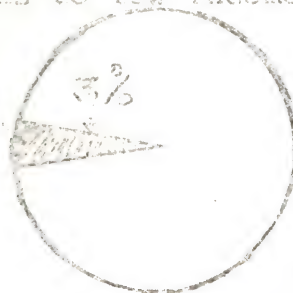
The ... of ... Community Services received \$1,427,272 from ...

... directly to citizens groups?

- 11,000 - ...

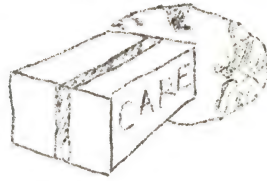


The ... direct allocations to low income citizens-1971.



... RAISED BY UNITED APPEAL IN THE NAME OF THE POOR SHOULD GO TO THE ...

CARE OF CANADA



NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
63 SPADINA OTTAWA 232-7122
K1P 5A6
THOMAS KINES - DIRECTOR

Ref.: 101
April 24, 1972.

The Greater Montreal Anti-poverty
and Co-ordinating Committee,
2365 Grand Trunk,
Pointe St. Charles, Que.

Gentleman:

In reply to your telegram of April 22 which was received to-day, I must advise that CARE cannot provide food aid to those in need in the Province of Quebec as our charter and incorporation restricts our activities to assisting needy people in under-developed countries outside North America and our entire resources are devoted to assisting those whose governments are not able to provide for all their needy.

Yours sincerely,

Tk:arw

THOMAS KINES,
National Director.

FOR YEARS, THE WORLD'S MOST NEEDED GIFT...

Parents,

A group of Parents met last week to discuss the Point Improvement of Education Committee (P.I.E.C.) concerning its effect on the atmosphere within our Schools.

What is P.I.E.C.?

1/ Its basic objective is to improve the educational process in the Inter City Area, which is excellent. But the means by which it goes about obtaining this objective is the reason for this letter.

P.I.E.C.'s Method of Operation

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1/ Demand changes | 4/ Get Publicity, Good or Bad |
| 2/ Interrupt Private Meeting | 5/ <u>Provide misleading Facts to Public</u> |
| 3/ Picket Schools and School Boards | 6/ <u>Most Important they claim to represent the Parent Body.</u> |

What I have listed is very normal for a pressure group and seems harmless but look at the side effects.

The School Boards are fed up, Teachers refuse to co-operate with them thus creating an atmosphere of Strife and Tension in our Schools defeating their objective of improving the situation. Another side effect is that we might loose Good Teachers next year, for who wants to work in an atmosphere of Tension caused by P.I.E.C.

Here is the Problem:

P.I.E.C. claims to represent the Parent Body when they made their demands, we say this is wrong.

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1/ As a Parent do you wish to be represented by P.I.E.C. | YES <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | NO <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2/ The School Boards are setting up Parent Committees do you wish to be represented by them? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> NO |

With this results of this survey we will make representation to the School Boards and the Government stating the undersigned Parent does not wish to be represented by this Group and Hopefully our Schools can return to Normal.

If interested please sign and return.

The following parents support the above petition.

E. Bennett
Mrs. Madigan
Mrs. O'Donnell
Mrs. McCrory
P. Mill
S. McCaskill
A. Nolan
A. White
R.P. Walters
J. Leonard
Mrs L. Cobb
Mrs.A. Light

P.I.E.C.'S RESPONSE TO B.S. LETTER

WARNING!! TO ALL EDUCATION GROUPS.

Beware of small groups of parents, who will not admit that there is any thing wrong with the schools. Right now there is a smear campaign going on in Pointe St. Charles. PISC has been attacked by a small group of parents who want to believe there is nothing wrong with our Educational system. These same people would rather believe that their own children are backward or slow learners than to accept the truth. Our schools are not teaching our children to their full potential!! These same people who have attacked PISC have never been to a PISC meeting. We therefore must assume that they know not of what they speak.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Demand Changes. | 1. What's wrong with wanting changes when our children are 2 years behind? |
| 2. Interrupt Private Meeting. | 2. We do not interrupt private meetings. Aren't these people aware monthly board meetings are PUBLIC. |
| 3. Picket Schools and Boards. | 3. Teachers and Parents picketed the board. Do we not have the same right? |
| 4. Get Publicity-Good or Bad | 4. What is good Publicity? When we state the schools are perfect? What is bad? When we use the Boards own figures to show parents how far behind the children are? |
| 5. Provide Misleading Facts to Public. | 5. We use authorized figures from the board. Are these people suggesting the Boards give misleading information? |
| 6. Most Important, They claim to represent the parent body. | 6. We do <u>not</u> claim to represent anybody, just <u>we</u> as parents. |

What is the problem? These people claim to speak for the School Board, saying the Board is fed up. Are these few anti-PISC people not aware Dr. Patterson, chairman of Protestant School Board, is going with PISC to Quebec for funding for our demands? We do not feel good teachers leave because of our demands:

1. Fewer children in a class.
2. Food Supply.
3. Paid Teachers Aides.

Now, WHO is giving misleading information????

Maureen & Eileen

WOMEN IN CHINA

Before the revolution in China, women were brutally oppressed by their husbands and families who were in turn brutally oppressed by the Chinese economic and political system. So while the revolution progressed, another struggle began whose object was the liberation of women from the roles which oppressed them most directly. A few poor peasant women began to organize Women's Associations.

The following is an excerpt from Fangshen, by William Minton, which describes what happened.

"The women found as they organized among themselves, attended meetings and entered into public life, that they met more and more opposition from men, particularly the men of their own households, most of whom regarded any activity by wives or daughters-in-law outside the home as 'steps leading directly to adultery'. Family heads having paid sound grain for their women, regarded them as their private property, expected them to work hard, bear children, serve their fathers, husbands, and mothers-in-law, and speak only when spoken to. In this atmosphere the activities of the Women's Association created a domestic crisis in many a family. Not only did the husbands object to their wives going out; the mothers-in-law and fathers-in-law objected even more strenuously. Many young wives who nevertheless insisted on going to meetings were badly beaten up when they got home."

"Chow Cheng-fu was a bare poor peasant who got land and house for the first time in the distribution that followed the 'settling of accounts.' Land and house made possible the acquisition of a wife. Through a go-between he made a match with a puppet soldier's widow ten years his junior. Perhaps because of the difference in their ages, Cheng-fu proved to be a very jealous husband. He would not allow his wife out of his sight for even an instant. Over this issue they soon fell to quarrelling. To settle the matter, he beat her, and she, being a woman of some spirit, went to the Women's Association. The women sent a delegation to talk to Chow Cheng-fu. They reminded him how hard it was for a poor peasant to get a wife at all. Once married he ought to treat his woman with great respect, be patient with her, and help her to overcome her mistakes, especially since she was younger than he. If he beat her she would only learn to hate him, their relations would steadily worsen, and in the end she might demand a divorce. In that case he would lose his wife completely. Since Chow Cheng-fu did not like the idea of a divorce he decided to be gentle with his wife thereafter. Later when he went away to do rear service at the battlefield, he got a literate companion to write a letter thanking the Women's Association for their help: 'After I left home I thought it over and realized that you were kind enough to try and help us. Now I know that it is only through mutual love and respect that husband and wife can live happily together and build a good life.'

"When asked if, as a result of these actions, women had yet won equality, one of the leaders of the Association said, 'No, not yet. Things are a little better than before. Still, there are beating cases and most men still despise women's words and think women are no use. We have to struggle for a long time to win equality.'"

"It would be very one-sided to imply that the only goal of the Women's Association was equality for women. Without the successful transformation of society, it was impossible to talk of liberation for women. Many women realized this as if by intuition, and they made the Women's Association an instrument for mobilizing the power of women behind the revolution in all its aspects--behind the 'settling of accounts,' behind the drive for production, and behind the defense effort. Through the Association, classes were organized for literacy and for the study of po- 11

WOMEN IN CHINA-CONT'D

litics, cotton loans were made to stimulate spinning and weaving, the women were brought together to make uniforms and shoes for the soldiers, and wives and mothers were urged to encourage their husbands, sons, and brothers to enlist in the army."

"All of these activities were intimately linked up with the struggle for equality, with the demand on the part of women that they should no longer be treated as chattels. If this demand alarmed the men, the all-out support which the women gave to over-all revolutionary goals disarmed them and won from them a grudging admiration. In their hearts they had to admit that they could not win without the help of "Half of China".

So, that is part of what happened in China, but we must find our own solutions to our own problems. The Women's Section is a new addition to the Poor People's Paper, so we would like to hear from the women in GMAOC who have comments, ideas, etc.



"HE'S OUT FIGHTING FOR OPPRESSED PEOPLES"

GROUP NEWS

SOUTH SHORE CITIZENS RIGHTS AGAINST BAILIFF SEIZURES

Hi; from the South Shore Citizens Rights against Bailiff Seizures (S.S.C.R.A.B.S.) a sub committee of the South Shore Citizens Association (S.S.C.A.). There is not much to report this month from the South Shore. The bailiffs are not seizing like they were last month.

Since Jan. to the end of Feb. we have helped over eighty (80) citizens. But since our local initiative program which started on March 1, we have had very few cases to come to our office or phone. We have been taking cases out of the news papers, out of which we have helped 35 citizens, and they were all illegal. But without the project these people would not have known their rights, and would of been sold and they would not have been able to do a thing about it. The oppositions were put in for a main-levée on the grounds of the thousand dollar (1,000) was left in the debtors place of residence. As article 552 of the civil code of procedure states. Our crabs advocates are doing a good job, they have learned well and are in the process of helping the French Group of advocates in seizures matter. For we are trying to work hand in hand with them, because most of the S.S.C.R.A.B.S. Advocates are bilingual and so far our cases are mostly French citizens.

The project does not only handle seizures but also community workers are involved and their job is to meet the public by going door to door handing out information about rights and landlord rights, also a questionnaire on consumers affairs. We have a research team who's job is to get the information for the community workers to give out. So far we have seen over a hundred (100) citizens who have filled in the questionnaire forms. So far the project is doing a what it said it would. Besides, the project has given fourteen (14) people work. A lot of the workers were on welfare (ten (10) in all). We are hoping to have at least three (3) community meetings which is the job of the research team, and the community workers team.

The places we are hoping to hold the meetings on consumers protection are Greenfield Park, Lafleche, St. Hubert. These are the areas that we are finding out need it the most also Brossard if possible. There are four (4) persons to a team plus 1 secretary and coordinator. The office itself has been open for three (3) weeks since March 10, and we have to close the project at the end of May, so it does not give us much time to do what we really would like to do. But as long as we are in operation we will do our best. Some of the people we have helped are so glad to know that there are other citizens who are trying to help their fellow mankind, and that there is an organization doing something about how the bailiffs work.

So our advocates are pretty happy to know that they are doing something worth while, helping somebody out and getting paid for it. I only hope that they feel the same way after the project is finished, that they continue this work and join S.S.C.R.A.B.S. to do the same thing on a voluntary basis. If anybody wants to drop in at our office you are welcome, at 5369 Grande Allée, St. Hubert or call 676-0443. Well so long for now, hope to be seeing you all next month in the poor people's paper.

by: Donald Whitworth, Chairman
Leslie Jiles, Co-chairman

S.S.C.R.A.B.S. THEME SONG

SING TO THE TUNE OF GLORY GLORY HALLELUIA

THE CRABS ARE REALLY MARCHING FOR THE PEOPLE AS YOU SEE

WE ARE WATCHING ALL THE SEIZURES THAT ARE DONE ILLEGALLY
SO BAILIFF WATCH JUST WHAT YOU DO OR CRABS WILL GET YOU SOON
WITH AN OPPOSITION IN THE MONTH OF JUNE

CHORUS

CRABS ARE REALLY REALLY MARCHING

ITS THE BAILIFFS WE ARE SCARING
CRABS ARE REALLY REALLY MARCHING
WHEN THE BAILIFFS GET IN OUR WAY

OUR CHAIRMAN IS THE PLUGGER

WHILEX THE WORKERS DO THEIR BEST
SO PEOPLE DCN'T YOU WORRY
WE'LL PUT THE BAILIFFS TO REST
AND MAYBE THEN THE COURTS WILL SEE
THAT THE SEIZURES JUST AIN'T FAIR
AND SHOW THEM BRABS REALLY CARE

THAT'S THE LAST
TIME I TRY AN
ILLEGAL SEIZURE!!



The Pointe C.R.A.B.S. are still busy working on seizures and are getting very good results. We are having many phone calls from different areas of Montreal, and we are referring them to the Legal Aid of Greater Montreal.

Plus the Legal Clinic's lawyer Paul Baatz has been helping us out on different cases, he has been working closely with us.

We are gathering information about a good Co-op, and we are planning to forward this on to the public. We hope that in the near future we will be able to form an English co-op of our own in Pointe Saint Charles for the people of this area.

Nora Fraser
and
Virginia Watkins.

SOUTH SIDE CITIZENS' RIGHTS AGAINST BAILIFF SEIZURES
S.S.C.R.A.B.S.

S.S.C.R.A.B.S. PROJECT has now been in operation for over a month, we have found that the people of the South Shore have long been deprived of their legal rights. This situation has many causes:

- 1) First of all the public itself is indifferent and has neglected to inform itself, on laws concerning contracts, seizures etc. This neglect in itself is not entirely public fault, because it is a duty of any government to inform its citizens.
- 2) Secondly the citizens are often being taken by unscrupulous individuals, whether they are dishonest lawyers, dishonest bailiffs or dishonest landlords. These people who are informed on the laws take advantage of these laws to exploit the public.

For instance it has been proven that many contracts are illegal and can be countered.

C.R.A.B.S. Citizens' Rights Against Bailiff Seizures was formed to protect the underprivileged citizen against illegal seizures and Consumer Society.

* * * * * ***** * * * * *

AMBCAL A MA BAIE CITIZENS ACTION LEAGUE

It has been an eventful few months since we've joined GMAPCC. Under the Local Initiatives Program we've opened a thriving Emergency Food, Clothing and Furniture Depot. Clothing being an abundant commodity therefore, PERM has helped by taking whole bunches off our hands.

The Day Care Centre is finally underway - the beginnings dotted with objections from certain sections of the community (would you believe). Evelyn Williams is co-ordinator and has been a tower of strength ie: it's located in the community centre and has been painted for about eight weeks. The main concern is further funding for such an important service such as this and contrary to popular opinion the Government is not subsidizing all Day Care Centres. Typical, but must be changed and by May 31.

Winnie Merritt, one of our advocates, has been involved in the ground floor negotiations for a separate welfare office for the West Island. It hopefully will soon be a reality with just location the problem.

The Depot has benefited from food drives through the local schools, CLED and individual donations. The group is now finding it fairly simple to have representation at most sub-committees of GMAPCC.

We are now the proud owners of a printing press which will be the instrument used for a local press - unbiased of course!

By the next issue of this paper we should have more to impart.



OPEN YOUR EYES TO OVERTY



Our project is going very well we had a meeting with all the Hospitals, Churches, and Schools concerning this area. We are also doing a lot of advocating and I'm happy to say were all getting along great in our work. The only thing about our office is this (When the cats away, the mice will play), meaning the workers really try their best to get on our nerves. We feel that a massive demonstration will be needed in this office very shortly. It seems we should at this time ask G.M.A.P.C.C. for extra funding to supply the welfare officers of our district a couple of cans of Deodorant since they work themselves up in such a smelly sweat whenever they see our advocates walk into their office. Keep up the good work (Poor~Peoples Paper) and if you need more help, please call on us at either 738-2538 or 738-2852. We will be glad to assist you.

Thank You

Mrs. Debbie Terrie
Secretary of O.Y.E.T.P.

To All My Friends:

I wish to thank you sincerely for your kindness to me during my stay in the hospital and while at home.

Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.

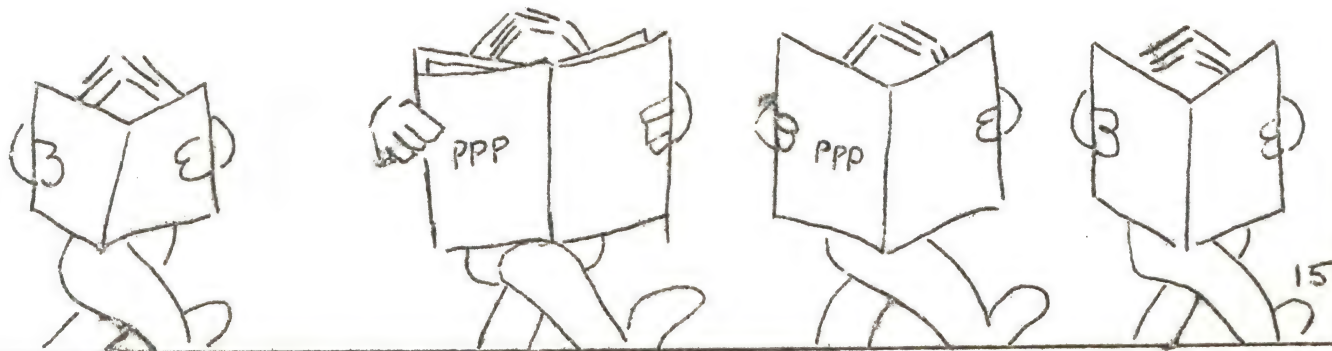
Mary Wood

PEOPLE'S LIBRARY

The staff of the Library is happy to announce the return to work of Mrs Mary Wood. Mrs. Wood will be resuming her full duties as administrator as of April 5, 1972. Three cheers for Mary!

Shelves are still in the process of being buily and the real work of removing duplicates, improving the selection and disposing of un wanted books has started.

LONG LIVE THE POWER OF THE PEOPLE THROUGH KNOWLEDGE.



S.L.A.P. ST LAURENT ANTI-POVERTY

As you all probably know S.L.A.P. received a Local Initiative Grant in the amount of \$30,100 - if somewhat belatedly - from the Federal Government to set up an Information and Referral Centre, which would employ 13 people and offer the following services to the community:

WELFARE ADVOCACY: BAILIFF SEIZURES:
BUDGETING AND NUTRITION: INTRODUCTION
TO WELFARE AND FAMILY PLANNING:
COMMUNITY CARE: A YOUTH PROGRAMME:
AND TWO BABYSITTERS TO CARE FOR THE
CHILDREN OF THE OTHER PERSONNEL
WORKING ON THE PROJECT:

A 5 1/2 room basement apartment was rented at 1605 Crevier St. Apt. 1 in Ville St. Laurent and the job of setting it up got under way.

One of the biggest problems we were faced with was the lack of furniture particularly desks, chairs, office equipment, playroom furniture, etc., and an effort was made to secure them locally without charge to eliminate any unnecessary expenditures from our budget.

While the response from the local merchants fell on "dead" ears we persisted and managed to secure all we needed to get started and donations were made from a local church, private donors and the local community centre.

Following are brief comments by the writer with regard to the above services; -

1. WELFARE ADVOCACY: The need for welfare advocates to deal directly with the welfare recipient preferably at a hospitality booth at the local welfare office obviates a considerable number of problems faced by people applying for welfare for the first time, and also for those people presently on welfare and not fully aware of the entitlements they justly deserve according to the social aid act - Bill 26.

The number of cases handled by the FOUR people employed by the information centre has been considerable, and in this particular area of endeavour we are very proud to claim a total of over 300 people we have been able to assist since the 1 February 1972. There has been a lot of talk circulating recently about hospitality Booths and their effectiveness in the welfare office and to the welfare recipient in particular.

A lot of argument PRO and CON has been going on for some time - but I would suggest to the reader that the only arguments that go against the welfare booth is the so called PROfessional negative attitude.

Any endeavour or undertaking by anyone or any group not worth its salt would not be the target of all this adverse publicity if it did not indeed make a lot of people very very uncomfortable about what they should be doing and are not - which is simply to ensure people are given what is theirs according to the law. Popular advocates working for citizens groups have no axe to grind and are not hampered by bureaucratic red tape. Popular Advocats can look at a persons real objectively and therefore are a vital necessity if the welfare recipients interests are to be safeguarded.

2. CITIZENS RIGHTS AGAINST BAILIFF SEIZURES: One person employed by the centre who is conversant with law regarding a citizens rights when faced with a bailiff seizure.

Many people are not aware of their basic rights and do not know that it is against the law to seize household effects which are considered absolutely essential to the needs and health of the family

ST LAURENT ANTI-POVERTY - CONT'D

Welfare and low income people are not responsible for the mismanagement of the economy and have no control over huge corporations and are therefore not to be made the scapegoat if they cannot find work with sufficient wages which would grant them their inherent right as citizens of this country to a just and reasonable living.

When over 600,000 people in a country of this size are out of work and have been for so long is it not understandable many debts and commitments made could not be honoured. Most of these people were forced as no alternative existed to go on welfare and to add insult to injury a great many were seized.

Many of these people were helped directly by C.R.A.B.S. and once again the need for every citizen to familiarize themselves with their rights against bailiff seizures is of the utmost importance.

3. BUDGETING AND NUTRITION:

Due to the ever spiralling cost of food, welfare and low income residents are hard pressed to keep up with this problem. A person who has extensive experience in this field of budgeting and nutrition is available to prepare budgets, and advise on the best type of nutritional food essential for good health.

A constant war is now being waged by the Food Chains to convince people that theirs is the best store to shop at. With their huge profits they can indulge in the most bizarre sales pitches known to man, and all without exception are entirely motivated by the extra buck that can be made without real interest to the community at large.

When approached by the community to contribute a small donation for a food drive from their profits, what is their normal reaction?

Consider a \$5 donation from Dominion and the request that their name be withheld from the press for a start.

Without the direct buying from these foodchains by the people how long would they exist? Its really too bad people have to eat.

Maybe our Government could suggest an alternative arrangement

In the meantime people on welfare have to learn the art of feeding a family of 6 for example on the grand total of \$146 per month from which Clothes, House hold items and Personal Care must be paid for.

We are also waging war but with very different rules and our ultimate goal will be fair prices based and tied directly to the wage earners paycheck.

4. COMMUNITY CARE:

The problems faced by many residents of the St. Laurent Community under this heading are many and varied such as: - Welfare and low income families unable to meet the expensive cost of replacing clothing and furniture:- The need to facilitate recreational and social programming for the adult population:- The desperate need for mothers with 3 to 8 children to get out of the home and away from the children at least once a week to participate in group discussions, sewing classes, knitting and crocheting, etc. St. Laurent has a large number of one parent families and a desperate need exists for a volunteer "Big Brother" and "Big Sister" Program.

5. INTRODUCTION TO WELFARE AND FAMILY PLANNING:

A person to train with the public nurse around the issue of family planning and child rearing. Also to whom the St. Laurent Welfare office will refer all new welfare recipients for support and help in adjusting to their new situation.

Our worker will inform these

ST LAURENT ANTI-POVERTY CONT'D

new welfare cases of the availability of low cost housing and the most economical stores from which to buy food and clothing in the immediate area, and also to inform generally the Pro's and Con's of adjusting to a welfare budget and lifestyle.

6. YOUTH PROGRAM:

The need for a "Youth Program" which would include discussions on the major problem of drug taking; the lack of youth activities when facilities are available; the present desperate shortage of employment for the 17-25 age group etc., is something which concerns us all and the vital necessity to understand the particular problems faced by this age group is of paramount importance not only to our particular community but to the country as a whole. Every possible endeavour will be made to solve some of these very complex problems.

7. BOOKKEEPER AND SECRETARY:-

A person to work as Bookkeeper and secretary who will be responsible to co-relate all information relating to all the above services and also for all accounting and payroll for the 13 people employed at the information centre.

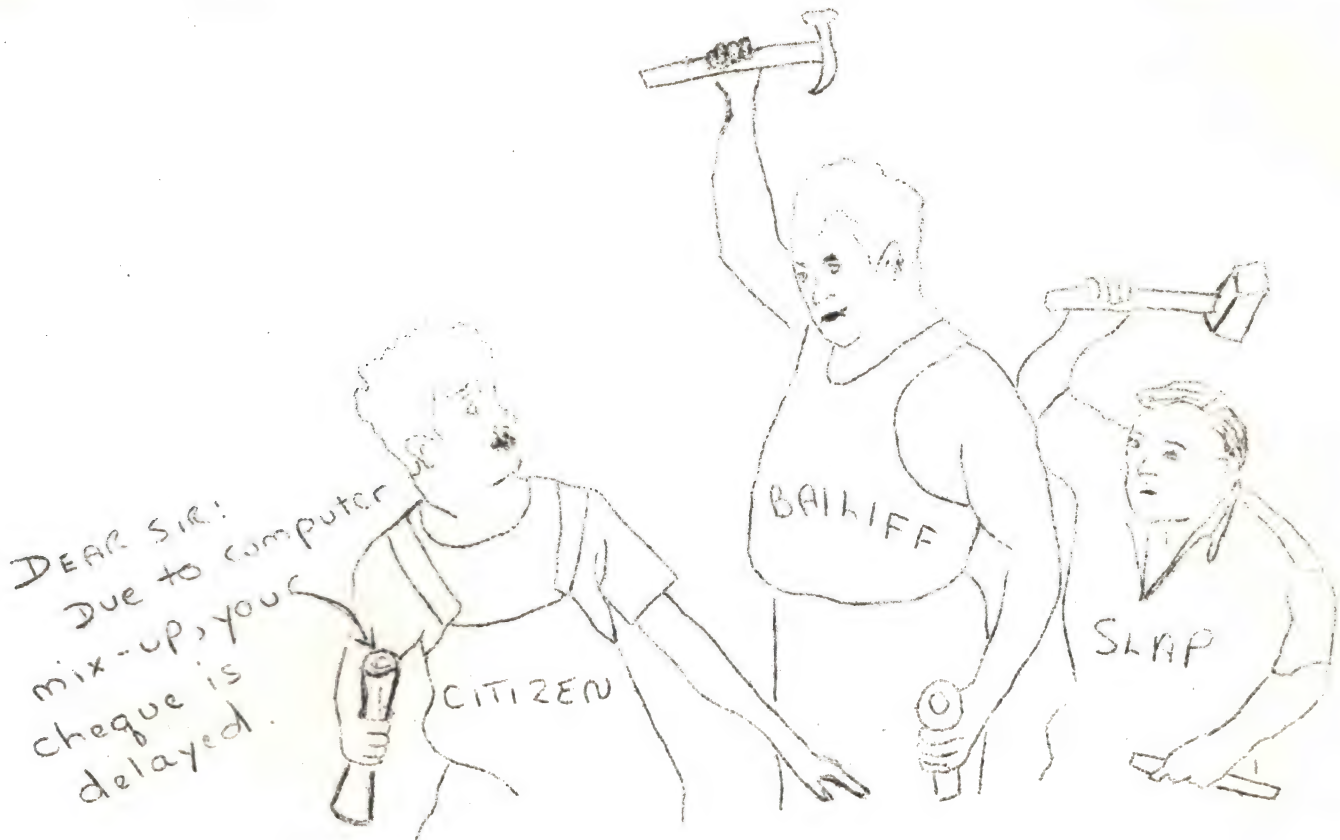
8. BABYSITTERS:-

Two women employed as babysitters to care for the pre-school children of the other personnel working on the project.

9. PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR:

A person responsible for the overall co-ordination of all project activities and has experience in all aspects of welfare rights and advocacy.

Further information is available about any of the above services by calling - 748-8820 - 748-8829



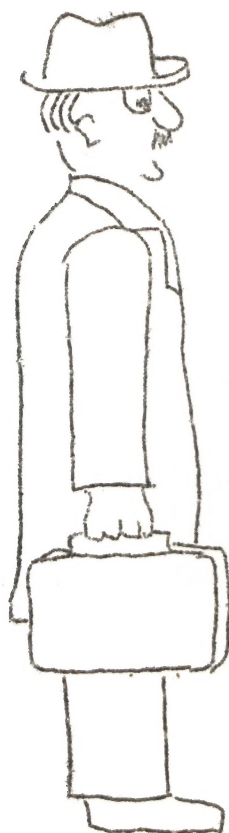
POINT IMPROVEMENT OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE

RESULTS OF OUR LAST SIT-IN AT PSBGM

"Good News" - Dr. Patterson, chairman of the Protestant School board wrote a letter to us stating that the P.S.B.G.M. will go with us to Ottawa in regards to our demands. Maureen Ryan and Eileen Dobson were elected as FIEC'S delegates for the trip. A small victory but an opening to further negotiating of our year long demands. Catholic Parents of St. Annes School please take note that bus tickets can be obtained by asking for a form from the teacher. This includes low-income and welfare recipients.

Next Action is at the Catholic School Commission April 13th. This action is in regards to the distribution of said Bus tickets. We don't like our children having to ask weekly for bus tickets. We want to see a better distribution arrangement. Come and help us to help your children. We are meeting at 565 Dublin April 13th Thursday at 9:15 A.M.. Free transportation. (A little late now!).

There will be a meeting at St. Columba House of Montreal High Teachers and Guidance Councillors. If you have a child in M.H.S. come and find out about the courses available and where these courses lead to. Please remember to bring your child's booklet on the courses and the counsellors will help you to fill them in. This is the first effort made for the teachers to come to our community so let's all show our support and interest in our children by being there. The meeting is Tuesday night 7:30 P.M. April 11. If there is enough interest shown by this first meeting, perhaps we'll convince the teachers to visit us on a more regular basis.



PATTERSON TAKES A PEEK AT THE POINTE.

PROJECTS

Speakers Bureau

G.M.A.P.C.C. receives invitation to speak at various organizations: Churches, Service Clubs, ect...

This can be useful in building up a middle class support group to help with resources and possibly act as a pressure group to support G.M.A.P.C.C. DEMANDS WITH GOVERNMENTS OR AGENCIES.

If anybody from G.M.A.P.C.C. is available for this kind of "trip" speak to Tom Edmonds at St. Columba House. If anybody goes out speaking don't just be an after-dinner speaker but tell the audience you expect something from them. Take names and addresses and telephone numbers of anybody who wants to help and give them to Tom. In this way we'll build up a group who can be called upon to help out as needs arise and who can educate and politized.

A few hints on speaking: Be yourself - tell your own experiences with "poverty" - don't discuss the national economy or Quebec politics unless you're very sure of yourself. For facts and figures use the G.M.A.P.C.C. publication "Welfare means Hunger and Slavery", "Highlights" from the Senate Report on Poverty or speak with a resource person.

Announcement: PEOPLES LIBRARY

We need (us) people working on opportunities for youth, kids who want to work for these projects. We will take every application given to us. If interested call:

Peoples' Library: 932-4361
ask for Michel or Ernie

The Projects consist of:
Agricultural
T~~op~~
Day Center
Day Camp

Explanation:

Agricultural: Consist of watching the kids doing their own thing in gardening.

Paper: Consist of getting a paper out every week: Typing, Sorting, Making Articles.(poems, ect.)

Day Centre: Consist of having a place for kids doing their own thing, listening to records, painting, ect..

Day Camp: Consists of keeping the cripple kids coming there occupied. (Camping, hikes etc).

LIBRa-TION !

Parallel Institute has many short articles available on organizing, politics, etc. which could be useful and interesting for your group. The following are a few suggestions, but if you are interested in any other specific things, we may have those too.

1. "Hard Talk on Organizing the Ghetto."

Nicholas Von Hoffman, Renewal Magazine, February 1966.

Nicholas Von Hoffman was an organizer for several years with Saul Alinsky in poor areas in the States. In this article (5 pages), he talks about how to build powerful organizations in poor areas. Many of his experiences could be very useful both to GMAPCC and to the local groups.

2. "The Panthers After Trial."

Art Goldberg, Ramparts, Vol. 10, No. 9, March 1972, page 24.

This is a short article (6 pages) in which Huey Newton of the Black Panther Party talks about how the Party is trying to build a base and organize the black community through the implementation of such "survival programs" as free health clinics, free food and clothing distribution, free busing service to prisons, free ambulance service, liberation schools, pest control programs, free breakfast programs, etc. There are some great ideas for tactics which might be useful to your group.

3. How to Negotiate, Poor People's Union.

A short article on negotiating - how to prepare for negotiations, what to do, and what not to do. The ideas in this pamphlet provide many hints which could be used to our advantage in negotiations with the Welfare Department, the Unemployment Insurance Commission, etc.

4. "Michel Chartrand's 30-year Conspiracy."

Simone Chartrand, Last Post, Vol. 1, No. 6, January 1971, page 17.

In this article (6 pages), the wife of Michel Chartrand, President of the Montreal Council of the C.S.W. talks about her husband's experiences in the Quebec Labour Movement over the last 30 years and explains why he decided to fight with workers and poor people instead of selling out to the establishment like so many of his former friends (like Trudeau, etc.)

5. "Underground Medicine: Ups and Downs of Free Clinics."

Constance Bloomfield and Howard Levy, Ramparts, Vol. 10, No. 9, March 1972, page 35.

A short article (7 pages) which discusses the successes and failures, problems and plans of free medical clinics. Maybe some of these experiences would be useful if you are thinking of setting up a free clinic in your area.

All articles are available from Parallel Institute Library, St. Columba House (in the basement).

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

In a recent item in the Montreal Gazette, Mr. Castonguay was quoted as saying that one reason for the picking up of the welfare hand-out checks by the unfortunate recipients, instead of having them mailed, was emulated by the New York Welfare offices, who had experimented with the system and had uncovered a few frauds. In the February 14th issue of the Gazette on the "Letters to the Editor" page, one sympathiser suggested that perhaps Mr. Castonguay in his eagerness to copy the U.S. methods, should go all the way and pay the welfare recipients here on par with their U.S. counterparts. A few examples, taken from New York paper of high repute, quoted that a single girl, with a child get \$240.00 per month, plus the rent of a two-room apartment; a single man, whose insurance benefits had run out, received \$183.00 per month. He lived in a room, with no utilities expenses. A young couple, the husband having been hired and fired from 11 jobs in three years, his last job as a security guard at \$221.00 every two weeks, went on welfare after he lost the job, and he and his wife and two small children received \$161.00 every two weeks for two months, when he got another job at \$82.00 per week, but the family remains on welfare to receive a supplementary assistance because their income is below the established poverty level. How d'ya like them apples, Claude?

God help the poor of Quebec Province if the Federal Government, tight as they are, ever accede to Castonguay's demands that the Quebec Government take over Welfare and Family Allowances, etc. We are all painfully aware of the shaky financial status of this government, and its inability to manage monetary affairs, and all the newspaper articles and spoutings from Manpower and Unemployment Insurance Commission lackeys will never convince us that Quebecers will benefit, should Ottawa accede to Castonguay's demands. We may be poor, but we are not idiots!

However, there is one small consolation, as recent events have showed us. For instance, it is much easier to get a job these days. It seems that if one has a lengthy police record, has plotted to overthrow the Government, planned the assassination of a few political figures, bombed buildings, and generally made oneself thoroughly obnoxious and anti-social, Bryce Mackasey would, without hesitation, hand us a job on a silver platter at a starting salary of \$150.00 per week. All this with Peter Waterhole's approval, of course.

To close on a lighter note,-

I'm glad that I'm Canadian,
I'm glad as I can be;
I wish I were a little dog
And Trudeau was a tree!

Alf Dée